

A decorative header featuring a bald eagle in flight at the top center. On either side of the eagle are clusters of three stars: one blue and two red. The title "THE KALIFORNSKI" is written in a large, black, serif font across the middle.


# THE KALIFORNSKI



**NEWSLETTER OF THE SLAVIC-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**  
**P.O. BOX 226 - WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95077**  
**(A NON-PROFIT - NON-RELIGIOUS & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)**

A decorative ribbon on the left side of the page, featuring the colors and stars of the American flag.

**EDITORS:**  
**Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud**  
**Nina Matulich**

A cluster of three stars in the bottom center: two red and one blue with white stars.

**SUMMER 2009**







## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Hello Everyone!**

**Thank you for attending our Rack-of-Lamb Dinner held on April 18, 2009. This was another great feast prepared by Peter Kovacich and his crew! There were 164 people served and 20 takeouts at the Watsonville Woman's Club.**

**Many thanks go out to the helpers – Nina Matulich on reservations, Helen Marinovich Ukestad, Norma Hansen, Barbara Gospodnetich Rudisill and Susie Gospodnetich Keller on selling raffle tickets and Mary Marinovich Siefke on drink tickets. More thanks to Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud on decorations and dessert serving also Ursula Puglizavich and Barbara Gospodnetich Rudisill on dessert serving. Thank you John Vodanovich for bartending and Gary Gospodnetich for raffle ticket calling and for preparing and bringing the bakalar. Hope to see everyone at our annual picnic BBQ at the Corralitos Padre Park on Sunday, July 12, 2009.**

**STEVE BELICK**



## S.A.C.O. OFFICERS

**President – Steve Belick – 477-7523**

**Vice-President – Peter Kovacich – 724-0071**

**Treasurer – Jo Franich-Puhera 724-8930**

**Recording Secretary – Linda Wathen-Espejo – 724-2892**

**Financial/Corresponding Secretary – Nina Matulich – 724-7971**


**We would like to extend a BIG THANK YOU to our President, Steve Belick for pitching in helping John Vodanovich serve drinks. Also, many THANKS for all that Steve does to prepare for our dinners. Thank you Steve!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**July 12, 2009 – Sunday – BBQ Corralitos Padre Park**

**October 10, 2009 – Saturday – Dinner**

**December 12, 2009 – Saturday – Christmas Dinner**



## WELCOME NEW S.A.C.O. MEMBERS

**Mark & Carol Pista – Watsonville, CA**

**Luis Paul Arbanas – Watsonville, CA**







### **DESSERTS**

**S.A.C.O.**  
**Judy Eiskamp**  
**Sharon Alaga**  
**Ann Vulich Cernokus**  
**Christina Justus Garcia**  
**MaryAnne Bulich Schnitter**  
**Helen Marinovich Ukestad**  
**Slavica Kusanovich Zalac**  
**Judy Hager**  
**Jo Franich Puhera**

**Cathy Pekoch Moresco**  
**Mary Pilo**  
**Mary Basich**  
**Karen Belick**  
**Ursula Puglizovich**  
**Twoana Gross**  
**Ann Backovich**  
**Fanita Divizich**  
**Mary Marinovich Siefke**



### **PRIZES**

*Thank You!*

**S.A.C.O.**  
**Gladys Rodrigues**  
**John Vodanovich**  
**Judy Eiskamp**  
**Charlotte Strazicich Car**  
**Sharon Alaga**  
**Christina Justus Garcia**  
**MaryAnne Bulich Schnitter**  
**Jeanne Watkins**  
**Nita Gizdich**  
**Mary Marinovich Siefke**  
**Jim Dutra**  
**Bill Resetar**  
**Helen Marinovich Ukestad (orchid)**

**Ruth Fiorovich**  
**Ann Lukrich Dobler**  
**Thelma Dorey**  
**Frances Matulich Osorio**  
**Alice Bankhead**  
**Eileen Matulich Compagno**  
**Norma Hansen**  
**Helen Barbora McAbee**  
**John Lukrich**  
**Janet Pelich Skillicorn**  
**Janet Meidl**  
**Anne Vulich Cernokus**  
**Marguerite Bloom**

**Quick and easy Croatian recipe: " ZORA KOLACI "**

**1 1/3 cups all-purpose flour**  
**1/2 cup(stick) cold butter**  
**1/4 cup sugar**  
**2 egg yolks**

**1/2 cup apricot or peach jam**  
**1/2 cup ground walnuts**  
**1/4 cup finely chopped walnuts**  
**10-15 Tablespoons cold water**

**On a wood board, make a well and put the flour, butter, sugar, egg yolks and cold water(by tablespoon, till it molds into a smooth dough). Knead, then roll and place into a 9x13 inch baking pan. Now spread the jam on top of dough. Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold in sugar and ground walnuts. Spread on top of jam. Sprinkle with chopped walnuts; bake at 350 degree oven-middle rack for 30 minutes or until golden brown. When cool, cut into triangles. Very good!**

**Source: Favorite Croatian Recipes**







## 2009 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### WATSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

**David Katich**  
**Parent: Mother - Margarita Katich**  
**Luci Basor**  
**Parents: John & Jelka Basor**  
**Grandmother: Luci Basor**

**Nicole Simmons**  
**Parents: Tom & GeriAnne Simmons**  
**Grandparents: Alex & Patricia Gospodnetich Solano**

**Natalya Valdivia**  
**Parents: Christopher & Susan Valdivia**  
**Grandparents: Alex & Patricia Gospodnetich Solano**



### APTOS HIGH SCHOOL

**Taylor Tushar**  
**Parents: Henry & Shelly Tushar**



## TRAVEL NEWS.....



### **RIVIERA EAST**

**A stylish new playground for international beachcombers and scenesters is taking shape along the sun-kissed coasts of Croatia and Montenegro. Just as spectacular as the French and Italian Rivas, the coast of the eastern Mediterranean has so far been much less traveled. That's all about to change. According to consulting firm FutureBrand's annual Country Brand Index, Croatia is among the three nations most likely to become major tourist destinations by the year 2013. Conversely, Croatia and Montenegro are easily navigated, with well-paved highways and plenty of rental car offices and English-speakers. Ferries and water taxis service all the major islands.**



**Submitted by Nina Matulich**  
**Source: Condé Nast Travel Magazine**  
**January, 2009 issue**

**MONTENEGRO**







## **PUTTING CROATIA ON THE MAP.....**

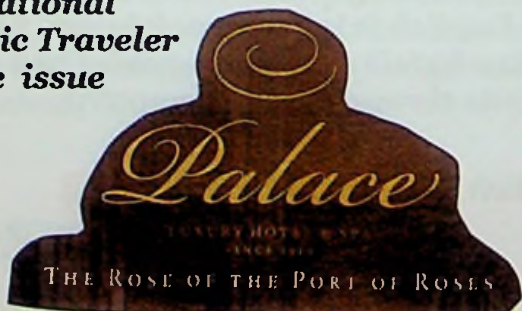
*The New York Times' Annual Travel Expo was held at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City, February 29-March 2, 2009. Among the representatives from around the world were suppliers from Croatian hotels such as Liburnia Riviera Hotels and Hotel Sveti Kriz. There were also representatives from cruise lines such as Katarina Line and Adriatic Cruises, tourism boards and agencies such as General Tourist, Speranza, Travelana and Amathus. There were questions from many hundreds of interested New Yorkers eager to learn more about Croatia. The suppliers from Croatia also had the unique opportunity to participate in the first tourism workshop sponsored by the Croatian National Tourist Office in New York. The Director of the Zagreb Convention Bureau said that Americans are growing in numbers as a tourist group in Croatia. Also, that the Americans are going to the "in" destination. The hospitality services available in Croatia, such as those featured at Hotel Sveti Kriz near Trogir, guests can enjoy a complete wellness/spa program featuring luxurious services. Americans are sure to enjoy the authentic culinary tours of Croatia's hidden treasures provided by the Ban Tours, where tours are focused on cuisines specific to certain parts of Croatia. With all of the fantastic options offered by the Croatian tourism ambassadors, it will be a small wonder when Croatia's hot spots are flooded with visitors looking for a great vacation this summer!*

*Source: The Croatian Chronicle*

## **ANOTHER EXCITING DESTINATION: SLOVENIA**

*Luxury hotel and spa, the "Palace", with its famous façade and regal past are now welcoming visitors. It is located in the very heart of Portorož (The Port of Roses), Slovenia, near the beach and the Mediterranean Sea, about 13 miles from Trieste. In the summer, one can relax and soak up the sun on the exclusive hotel beach or the spacious sun terrace. Guests can visit the Thermal Spa & Wellness Palace Center where they can dip in the swimming pools with thermo mineral water, relax in one of the saunas, or choose from massages, beauty and relaxation programs or thalasso and therapeutic treatments. One can also taste the traditional local dishes and selected Slovenian wines and join in the evening entertainment with piano music, prominent guests, and special events.*

*Source: National Geographic Traveler May/June issue*







## OTOČEC, SLOVENIA



*Rare are the opportunities when one can feel the spirit of the past gently weave with the rhythm of modern times. Sitting on an island in the middle of the emerald Krka River (the only Slovene castle located on an island) the castle and its park form one of Slovenia's most picturesque landscapes with its original and sensitive renovation that has preserved the castle's Gothic and Renaissance atmosphere. Sports enthusiasts will enjoy numerous activities from tennis, basketball and handball...to the fitness studio or relaxing in saunas and massage pools. In the immediate vicinity of the castle hotel, amateur and professional golf players can enjoy the 9-hole golf course, which is the longest and best golf course in Slovenia! The Otočec offers unlimited possibilities for culture, entertainment, recreation and relaxation. It's all here!*

*Source: National Geographic Traveler  
May/June issue*

*golf course*



*Dear Traveler,*

*Croatia is a nation of almost 5 million people, located in the heart of Europe on the beautiful Adriatic coast. Almost 10 percent of the country is protected as part of a national park or some other form of environmental protection. The best known National Park in Croatia, Plitvice Lakes, is protected by UNESCO. There are over 1,000 islands, islets and reefs, most undeveloped and preserved, perfect for eco-tourism. Beyond its natural beauty, Croatia has been a center of culture for at least 2,000 years. The city of Zagreb is the country's capital, and it is also a center of arts and culture with its numerous museums and galleries hosting world renowned exhibits and festivals. Well known resorts along the Dalmatian coast are Dubrovnik, Split, Poreč and Trogir, all of them listed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Opatija, a resort known for its long tourist tradition, was a popular destination of the European nobility. Access to the country is very simple, whether you travel by air, train, ship or car. All major U.S. carriers connect with Croatia Airlines throughout European getaways. American citizens do not need a visa to enter Croatia. English is widely spoken and there are numerous first class and deluxe hotels as well as quaint bed and breakfast type accommodations throughout the country.*

*Submitted by: Nina Matulich*







## **SLOVENIAN RIVIERA - IZOLA**



Izola was originally an island connected to the mainland by a causeway. It is located in the region Primorska at the adriatic coast and Since 1991, Izola belongs to the Republic of Slovenia. What use to be a farming and fishing village has developed into a popular holiday resort for its locals. Sights worth seeing is the palace of Besenghi degli Ughi from the late baroque period(built in 1775) the Manzioli palace built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century - as well as a new marina. Taking a slow evening stroll along the old fishing harbor, with its many cafés and seafood restaurants, is one of the great pleasures to be enjoyed in the town.

The wines are very popular in this region. Half of all Slovenian wines come from the coastal region (Primorska) and the neighboring karst (Kras). The best known red wines produced are Merlot, Cabernet, Refosk and Teran. A remarkable white wine is Malvazija.

As far as desserts - the best known Slovenian desserts are strudel and dessert pancakes, both of which generally include apples as well as cheese in Slovenian desserts. Here is one of their most often made desserts.

Izola, Besenghi degli  
Ughi Palace



### **SLOVENIAN APPLE CAKE**

**1/4 cup butter**

**1 cup sugar**

**1 egg**

**1/2 teaspoon salt**

**1 teaspoon baking soda**

**1 teaspoon cinnamon**

**1 cup flour**

**1 teaspoon vanilla extract**

**2 tablespoons hot water**

**1/2 cup chopped walnuts**

**2 1/2 cups apples, peeled, cored & diced**

**Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream the butter and sugar, then add egg, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, vanilla, flour, hot water, walnuts and apples.**

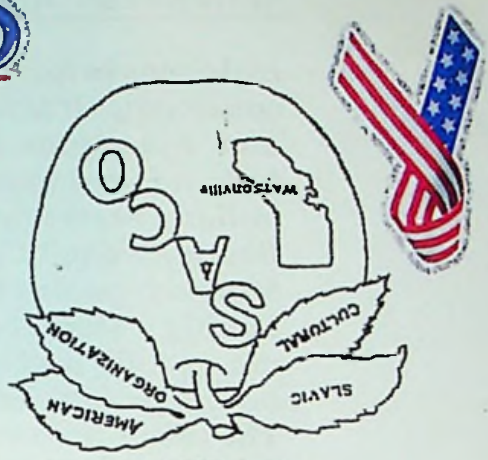
**Mix by hand with a wooden spoon until well blended and moist throughout, but do not overmix or cake will be tough. Pour into well greased 9-inch cake pan. Bake for 45 minutes and cool on wire rack when finished.**





**Have a  
Great 4th!**

DATED MATERIAL - Please Rush



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